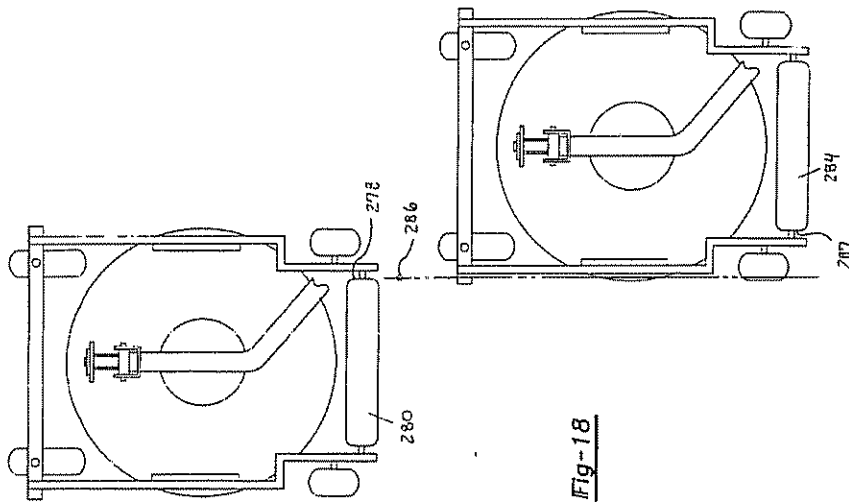


# **EXHIBIT 12**

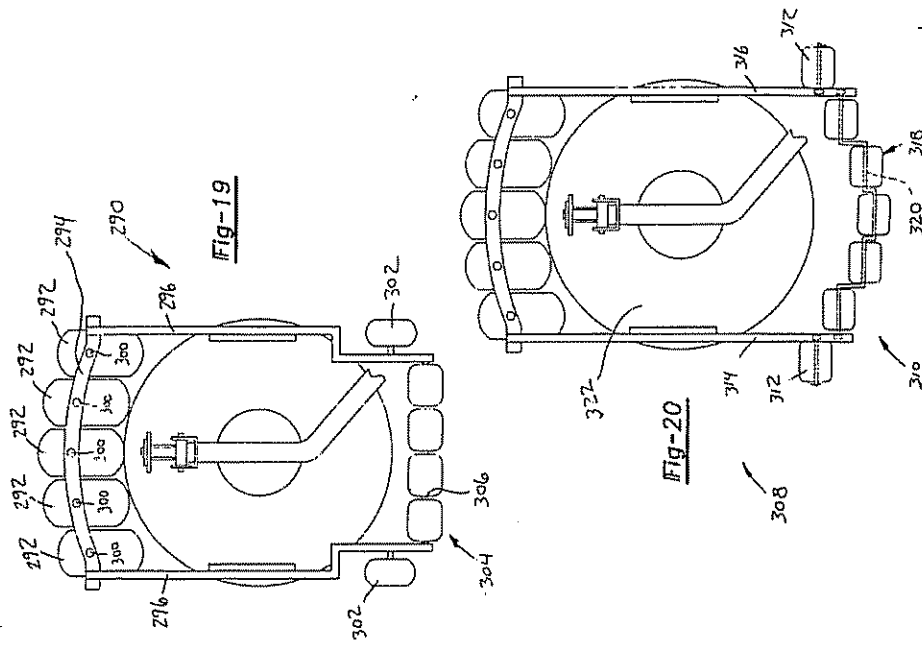
## **(part 2)**

PRINT OF DRAWINGS  
AS ORIGINALLY FILED



ORIGINAL FOR REFERENCE

PRINT OF DRAWINGS  
AS ORIGINALLY FILED



ORIGINAL FOR REFERENCE

PRINT OF DRAWINGS  
AS ORIGINALLY FILED

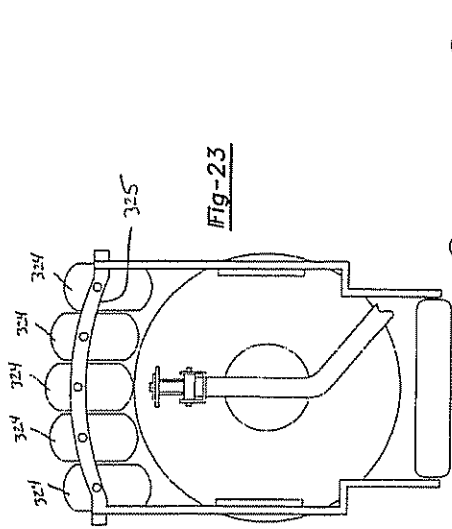


Fig-23

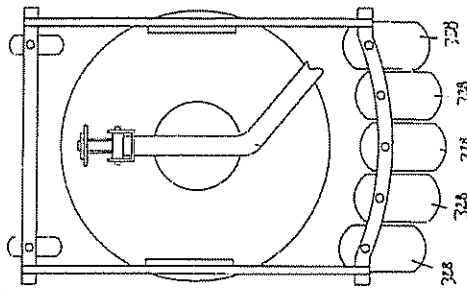


Fig-24

07412697, 08/08/2001

PRINT OF DRAWINGS  
AS ORIGINALLY FILED

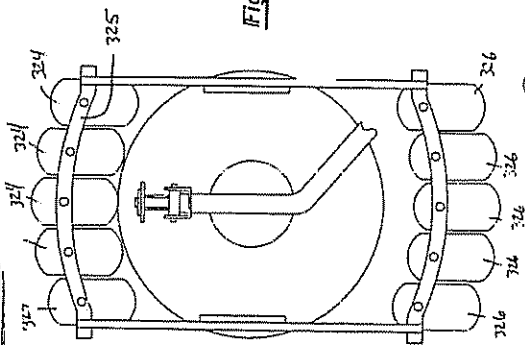


Fig-21

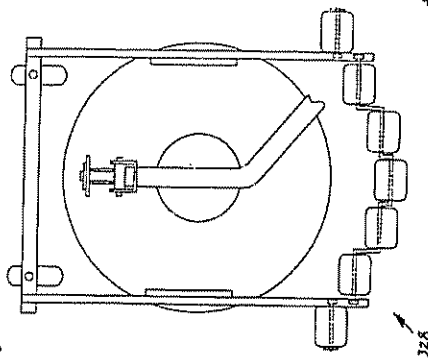


Fig-22

07412697, 08/08/2001





Also enclosed for recordal is the Assignment of this application with an attached cover sheet. Please record this Assignment and return it to us at your convenience.

A check in the amount of \$986.00 is enclosed to cover the filing fee (\$690.00), and seven (7) additional claims (\$116.00), late filing fee and Declaration surcharge (\$130.00), and the recordal of Assignment (\$40.00). If for some reason Applicant has not paid a sufficient fee to prevent the abandonment of this application, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-0750 for any further fees which may be due. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Direct: 11/07/2005  
HARNES, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 528  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303  
(248) 641-1600  
CAE/smb

By:   
Robert S. Nolan  
Reg. No. 30,667  
Christopher A. Eusebi  
Reg. No. 44,072  
Attorney for Applicant



Page 1 of 1

#3

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
APPLICATION NUMBER 09843,697  
FILING DATE 08/22/2005  
INVENTOR/APPlicant Richard D. Becker  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT 70166-0000157C7D  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Washington, D.C. 20540



Harnes Dicky & Pierce PLC  
PO Box 528  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303

Date Mailed: 10/12/2005

# NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

## Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been assigned to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given 30 days from the date of this notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees indicated below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(e).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing.
- Applicant must submit \$ 800 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).
- Total additional claim fees for this application is \$120.
- \$120 for 7 total claims over 20.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or cash or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$100 for a non-small entity, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 948.

A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.

Christopher A. Eusebi  
Initial Patent Examination Division (701) 304-1222

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

11/14/2005 09:45:00 0000108 010792 0943437  
05 FEB 06 13:00 EP  
06 FEB 06 13:00 EP  
04 FEB 06 07:00 EP

file:///C:/APPS/PreExam/correspondence2\_B.xml

10/11/05



Attorney Document No. 7016R-000015UCP8

# DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**QUANG-THY ROTARY LAWN MOWER**

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on August 22, 2000 as Application Serial No. 09/643,607

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application or to the patentability of the invention claimed therein in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, section 119(e)-(f) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate filed before and hereby also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

## PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

Number	Country	Filing Date (Year/Month/Day)	Priority Claim	
			Yes	No

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States Provisional application(s) listed below:

### PRIOR PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

Application serial number	(Month / Day / Year filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of the application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the application:

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status - patented, pending, abandoned
09/640,145	April 10, 2000	Pending
09/704,141	February 3, 1997	9,647,530

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and willful omissions are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of the United States Code and that each of the statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent based thereon.

I hereby appoint David P. Ulyanowski, Reg. No. 30,052, Donald G. Walker, Reg. No. 44,300 and each principal, attorney of counsel, associate and employee of Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., who is a registered Patent Attorney, my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith. I request the Patent and Trademark Office to direct all correspondence and telephone calls relating to this application to the undersigned, Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., P.O. Box 620, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 841-1600.

Full name of sole or first inventor: Richard D. Becker  
 Inventor's signature: Richard D. Becker  
 Date: Nov. 1, 2005  
 Residence: 30144 Apple St., Joplin, MO 64501  
 Residence: 48004 Shomont Hill Road, Joplin, Missouri 64501  
 Citizenship: United States of America  
 Post Office Address: 30144 Apple St., Joplin, MO 64501  
 Post Office Address: 48004 Shomont Hill Road, Joplin, Missouri 64501

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States Provisional application(s) listed below:

## PRIOR PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

(Application serial number)	(Month / Day / Year filed)
(Application serial number)	(Month / Day / Year filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, section 122, I declare my intent to disclose the material information so claimed in this application. I am aware that the failure to do so may become a basis for revocation of the patent or the application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status - patented, pending, abandoned
095248 145	April 10, 2000	Pending
007994 141	February 3, 1997	§ 102(b) 330

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and that these statements are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that I understand that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint David P. Ulyanski, Reg. No. 39,052 and each principal, attorney of counsel, associate and employee of Hammes, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., who is a registered Patent Attorney, my attorney with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. I request the Patent and Trademark Office to accept the correspondence to Hammes, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C., P. O. Box 620, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303 (248) 641-1800.

Full name of sole or first inventor: Richard D. Richter  
 Inventor's signature: Richard D. Richter  
 Date: 2-26-01  
 Residence: 203 Clarke Street, Johnson, Wisconsin 53038  
 Citizenship: United States of America  
 Post Office Address: 203 Clarke Street, Johnson, Wisconsin 53038

Page 2 of 3



Attorney Docket No. 701GR-000015/CPB

RECEIVED

MAR 15 2001

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

GANG-TYPE ROTARY LAWN MOWER

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on August 22, 2000 as Application Serial No. 09543.697

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application or to the patentability of the invention claimed therein in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, section 1.50.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, section 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

## PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

(Number)	(Country)	Priority Claim		
		(Day/Month/Year filed)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year filed)	Yes	No
(Number)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year filed)	Yes	No

Page 1 of 3

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Full name of sole or second inventor: Bardel S. Kneer  
 Inventor's signature: Bardel S. Kneer  
 Date: 2-26-01  
 Residence: 403 North Water Street, Watertown, WI 53185  
 Citizenship: United States of America  
 Post Office Address: 403 North Water Street, Watertown, WI 53185

NEW, CONTINUATION, DIVISIONAL OR  
 CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION  
 UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)

Attorney Docket No. 7016R-000015/CPB

#11 Pae A.

Express Mail Label No. EL561390395US  
 Date August 22, 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
 Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
 Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is a patent application for  
 GANG-TYPE ROTARY LAWN MOWER

Identified by: ☐ First named inventor  
 or ☒ Attorney Docket No. (see above)

I. Type of Application

☐ This application is a new (non-continuing) application.

☒ This application is a ☒ continuation / ☐ divisional / ☒ continuation-in-part of prior application No. 08/068,145, entitled the specification by inserting before the first line the

amendment: #11 amended spec. / 09/2/01

☒ The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied, is considered part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

If for some reason applicant has not requested a sufficient extension of time in the parent application, and/or has not paid a sufficient fee for any necessary response in the parent application and/or for the extension of time necessary to prevent the abandonment of the parent application prior to the filing of this application, please consider this as a Request for an Extension for the required time period under submission to change our Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for application fee. We may be able to use the USPTO's EASY FILED IN TRUST FEE. One copy for this application and one copy for each dependent application. With the Deposit Account (if applicable); and one copy for the above-referenced parent application (if any extension of time is necessary).

II. Contents of Application

a. Specification of 28 pages including a Title Page;  
☐ A microfilm computer program (Appendix);  
☐ A nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence submission;

☐ Because the enclosed application is in a non-English language, a verified English translation ☐ is enclosed ☐ will be filed.

☐ Cancel original claim of the prior application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing data purposes.)

b. ☒ Drawings on 18 sheets;



Attorney Docket No. 7016R-000015CPB  
Express Mail Label No. EL581390395US  
Date August 22, 2000

- c. ☒ An unsigned Only/Declaration (X) is enclosed / ☐ will be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.53(i).

The enclosed Only/Declaration is ☐ newly executed ☐ in copy from a prior application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(i) ☐ accompanied by a statement requesting the deletion of person(s) not inventions in the continuing application.

d. Fees

FILED FEE	Number	Number	Number	Basic Fee
CALCULATION	Filed	Size	Rate	\$90.00
Total Claims	27	20	7	\$18.00 =
Independent Claims	3	3	0	\$78.00 =
Multiple Dependent Claim(s) Used				\$280.00 =
FILED FEE - NON-SMALL ENTITY				\$816.00
FILED FEE - SMALL ENTITY: Reduced by 1/2				
<input type="checkbox"/> Verified Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.27 is enclosed.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Verified Statement filed in prior application.				
Assignment Recordal Fee (\$40.00)				
37 C.F.R. §1.17(h) Fee (non-English application)				
TOTAL				\$916.00

☐ A check is enclosed to cover the calculated fees. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

☒ The calculated fees will be paid within the time allowed for completion of the filing requirements.

☐ The calculated fees are to be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

3. Priority Information

☐ Foreign Priority: Priority based on Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, is claimed.

☐ A copy of the above referenced priority document ☐ is enclosed / ☐ will be filed in due course, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119(a)-(d).

☐ Provisional Application Priority: Priority based on United States Provisional Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119(e).

Sheet 2 of 3

Attorney Docket No. 7016R-000015CPB  
Express Mail Label No. EL581390395US  
Date August 22, 2000

4. Other Submissions

☐ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.

☐ An Information Disclosure Statement, \_\_\_\_\_ sheets of PTO Form 1449, and \_\_\_\_\_ patent(s)/publication(s) documents are enclosed.

☐ A power of attorney

☐ is submitted ☐ with the new Oath/Declaration.

☐ is of record in the prior application and ☐ is in the original papers / ☐ a copy is enclosed.

☐ An Assignment of the Invention

☐ is enclosed with a cover sheet pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§3.11, 3.28 and 3.31.

☐ is of record in a prior application. The assignment is \_\_\_\_\_ and is recorded at Reel \_\_\_\_\_ Frame(s) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ An Establishment of Assignee's Right To Prosecute Application Under 37 C.F.R. §3.72(b), and Power Of Attorney is enclosed.

☒ An Express Mailing Certificate is enclosed.

☒ Other: Return Postcard.

Attention is directed to the fact that the correspondence address for this application is:

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600.

Respectfully,

*David P. Uhlmann*  
David P. Uhlmann, Reg. No. 39,652  
Donald G. Walker, Reg. No. 44,390

Date 8/22/00  
Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600  
DPU/DGW/ke

Sheet 3 of 3

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3571  
 Examiner: To be assigned  
 Serial No.: 09/541,697  
 Inventor(s): Richard D. Brehm  
 Filed: August 22, 2000  
 For: GANG-TYPE ROTARY LAWN MOWER  
 Attorney Docket: 7016R-000015CFB

INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

RECEIVED

JUL 22 2001

3580 MAIL ROOM

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service at first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 16, 2001.

By: *David G. Walker*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

## I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, and other information submitted for consideration by the Office (except U.S. patent applications) are listed on HDP-1449 (based on Form PTO-1449), attached hereto.

## II. COPIES

- a. ☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication, U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

3571  
ABD

Attorney Docket No. 7016R000015CFB

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL AND  
EXTENSION OF TIME REQUEST  
(IF REQUIRED)

GANG-TYPE ROTARY LAWN MOWER

RECEIVED

JUL 22 2001

70 3600 MAIL ROOM

ART UNIT: 3571  
 EXAMINER: To be assigned  
 INVENTOR(S): Richard D. Brehm  
 SERIAL NUMBER: 09/541,697  
 FILED: August 2, 2000

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

FEE CALCULATION FOR ENCLOSED RESPONSE AND EXTENSION REQUEST (if any)				
Claims	Number	Extra	Rate	Amount
Remaining	27	0	\$18.00	0
Previously Paid	0	0	\$18.00	0
<b>Total Claims</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$78.00</b>	<b>0</b>
Independent Claims	3	0	\$250.00	0
Surcharge For Multiple Dependent Claim First Added				
[ ] Applicant requests a _____ month extension of time for response to the outstanding Office Action. The large entity fee is _____.				
<b>TOTAL</b> _____				
[ ] SMALL ENTITY STATUS (if applicable, divide TOTAL by 2)				
[ ] Verified Statement enclosed, if not previously filed.				
[ ] Reduction for Extension Fee of _____ months already paid				
<b>TOTAL</b> _____				
<b>TOTAL</b> _____				

[ ] A check is enclosed to cover the fees as calculated above.

[ ] The fees calculated above are to be charged to Deposit Account No. 09-0750.

If for some reason applicant has not requested a sufficient extension of time and/or has not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension of time necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a Request for an Extension for the required time period and/or an authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 09-0750 for any fee which may be due. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

HARNES, DICKY &amp; PIERCE, P.L.C.

P. O. Box 828  
 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
 (248) 641-1900

By: *David G. Walker*  
 David G. Walker, Reg. No. 44,390

I hereby certify that this letter, the responses attached hereto and, if enclosed, the small entity verification are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 16, 2001.

By: *David G. Walker*

charge our deposit account a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

4. \_\_\_\_\_ before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. No fee or certification is required.

b. \_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (check only one box)

• before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

i. \_\_\_\_\_ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

2. \_\_\_\_\_ See the certification below. No fee is required.

c. \_\_\_\_\_ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h);

• after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

i. \_\_\_\_\_ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

#### VI.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(i). (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

a. \_\_\_\_\_ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)); or

b. \_\_\_\_\_ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2)).

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Some of the items of information were first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making

Serial No. 09/643,697      Atty. Docket No. 7016R-000015/CFB      Page 3

b. X Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on PTO-1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120:

U.S. Serial Number	U.S. Filing Date
09/546,145	April 10, 2000

#### III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

a. X Except as may be indicated below in (b), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

b. \_\_\_\_\_ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

c. \_\_\_\_\_ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration:

#### IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

a. X The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this (these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does (do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. §122.

Serial No.	Filing Date	Att. Unit
09/546,145	April 10, 2000	3671

#### V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

a. X 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b); (check only one box)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. X before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required. In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and see the certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) below; or, if no certification has been made,

Serial No. 09/643,697      Atty. Docket No. 7016R-000015/CFB      Page 2

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1448)

PATENT AND TRADE-MARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

ATTOKEY DOCKET NO.: 7016R-000015CFB

SERIAL NO.: 091643,697

APPLICANT: RICHARD D. BERNAR

FILED DATE: AUGUST 22, 2000

GROUP: 3871

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					Class/ Subclass		(If appropriate) Filing Date	
Ref. Dets.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name				
1		1,081,710	June 1934	Pol				
2		2,594,259	April 1950	Ford				
3		2,936,561	May 1960	Gfrees				
4		3,070,035	Jan. 1963	Winget				
5		3,118,266	Jan. 1964	Coburn				
6		3,135,070	June 1964	Dunn				
7		4,308,713	Jan. 1982	James				
8		4,901,507	Feb. 1990	Crocraft				
9		5,137,100	Aug. 1992	Scott et al.				
10		5,280,095	Jan. 1994	Nurme, Jr., et al.				
11		5,203,729	March 1994	Curry et al.				
12		5,297,378	March 1994	Smith				
13		5,343,680	Sept. 1994	Reichen et al.				
14		5,355,665	Oct. 1994	Peter				
15		5,412,032	May 1995	Schueler				
16		5,423,565	June 1995	Smith				
17		5,481,857	Jan. 1996	Urmendo et al.				
18		5,407,604	March 1996	Loren				
19		6,047,530	April 2000	Bodnar				

Examiner: *Reich* Date Considered: *7/24/01*

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in accordance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in accordance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

#### VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

- a. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- b. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-identified fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 9, 2001  
 By: David P. Urvankski  
 David P. Urvankski, Reg. No. 39,052  
 Donald G. Walker, Reg. No. 44,390

HARRISS, DICKET & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
 P.O. Box 828  
 Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
 (248) 641-1600  
 DPU:DGW/mle

Enclosures: ☒ PTO-1449  
☐ PTO-872  
☐ Reference  
☐ Foreign Search Report  
☐ Fee  
☐ Other:

FORM 100-146 (Based on Form PTO-1440)

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Serial No.: 00643,597

Attorney Document No.: 7016R-000015C/PB

Applicant: RICHARD D. BEWAL

Filing Date: August 22, 2000

Class: 3671

Sheet 2 of 2

OTHER PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. No.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Yes	No
1.	1	7,604,519	Aug. 1978	US	—		
2.	1	6,805,998	Aug. 1988	WO	—		
3.	1	6,342,700	Nov. 1999	EP	—		
4.							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

1.	1	Mouldfield "Domestic Grass Machinery" (Date unknown).
2.		Turf Blower 1040 Diesel, Howard Pico, Turf Equipment (advertising brochure) (Date unknown).
3.		Norris Rotary Mower, John Deere 3164 Deck Attachment, Nimmo Manufacturing, Inc.
4.		Blower Turf Equipment Product Catalogue, 1997, Page 14
5.		"80-88 Owners Manual" (advertising brochure) published by Staber in 1981
6.		"Jacobson Textron HR-5111-4WD Hydraulic Rotary Blower" (advertising brochure) published by Jacobson Div. of Textron, Inc. in 1994.
7.		"Groundmaster 45-500 D Mowers" (advertising brochure) published by Toro (date unknown).
8.		"The Articulator", Model 425H (advertising brochure) published by LufTec, Inc. (date unknown).
9.		"The Articulator", Model 325ER (advertising brochure) published by LufTec, Inc. (date unknown).
10.	1	"The Articulator", Model 325E (advertising brochure) published by LufTec, Inc. (date unknown).

Examiner: *Richard* Date Considered: *7/28/01*

EXAMINER: Please initial if claim considered, whether or not claim is in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 102. Draw line through column if not in accordance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

MISSING PAGE(S) FROM THE  
U.S. PATENT OFFICE  
OFFICIAL FILE WRAPPER

# 5- RBS 1,2

Patent Imaging Corporation  
Patent Legal and Scientific Information Service  
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Crystal Plaza One, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202-3610  
(703) 553-0000

3



Uniquely engineered for unmatched versatility

3

**Best Buy Business Edition**

**HYDRA-DRIVE II**

**Rotary Mower**

**John Deere 3385 Deck Attachment**

- 5 Deck All Hydraulically Driven
- High Quality Finish Cut
- High Productivity
- 7.25 Acres an Hour at 5 M.P.H.
- Low Maintenance
- No Parts or Pulvers to Adjust
- No Greasing
- Easy Attached and Detached

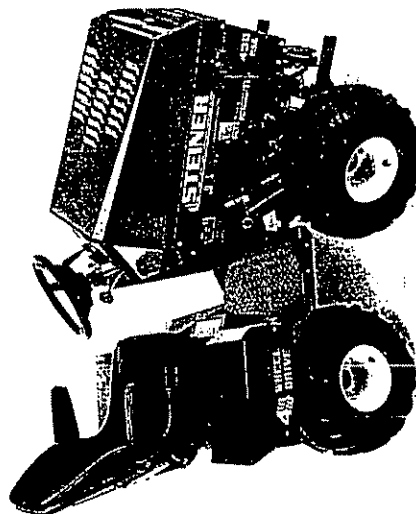
- Base Unit for Transportation, Storage and Maintenance
- Blades Shut Off Automatically When Reeled
- Height of Cut 1/4" to 4 1/4"
- Cutting Width 140"
- Transportation Width 96"
- Horse Model 335

**Nunes Manufacturing**  
 P.O. Box 138 • 1700 Highway 100 • Palmdale, California 93550 • Phone (818) 717-1111 • Fax (818) 717-1422



One turn behind the wheel tells you the Steiner is unique among the world's turf tractors. Right away, you're struck by the commanding, yet comfortable seating position, and the fact that every control is ergonomically placed for ease of use. Then, as you start out, you immediately feel the difference our articulated frame makes. With its frame hinged in the middle, the Steiner doesn't turn like other turf tractors. In fact, the Steiner changes direction with such agility, you'd think it's anticipating your next move.

With constant 4-wheel drive and an articulated frame, nothing else works like a Steiner.



#### Table of Contents

Model 225	4
Model 330 Max	6
Model 410	6
Model 220	10
Model 202	12
Accessories	14
Attachments	14-17
Specifications	18

S t e e l



Our 100,000 sq. ft. Steiner factory

You drive the Steiner effortlessly up and down hills, then lower a mow deck along side a creek. You're insured by the power of the Steiner's constant 4-wheel drive and hydraulic drive. The Steiner moves smoothly across all kinds of terrain, without churning, without jerking and without braking.



Pressing engineering demands are our priority

At the end of your first ride, you realize you've been at the controls of a machine engineered and built without compromise to be the finest turf tractor you can buy.

Because we give it unique capabilities, you can give it more life.

We developed the Steiner turf tractor to be a brilliant performer on yards, grounds and estates. But mowing and routine grounds maintenance are only the beginning of the Steiner's many uses and other mowing skills.

In less than five minutes, the unique Quick Hitch™ attachments enable your Steiner to become nearly any kind of maintenance machine you can imagine. You can sweep, cut, grade, scoop, lift, cut, blow, grade, scoop, lift, cut, sweep and more. And you'll find all Steiner attachments are exceptionally easy to use, ready to work hard – and built to last.



Complete line of attachments

All tractors are built to work hard. Steiners are built to work harder, longer.

More than 30 years ago, the first Steiner was built by a family of men in the Steiner family machine shop. Today, the machine shop has given way to a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Dublin, Ohio, where robots bring computerized precision to everything our craftsmen do.



Advanced parts build from steel



Painting is the multi-stage paint system

But one thing hasn't changed: We build each Steiner as if we were going to use it ourselves. We support our turf tractors with a full year warranty for commercial use and two years in residential use.

Years from now, you'll realize the true value of a Steiner. You'll have enjoyed many seasons of hard work, unmatched versatility and consistent performance.



Robotic welder at work

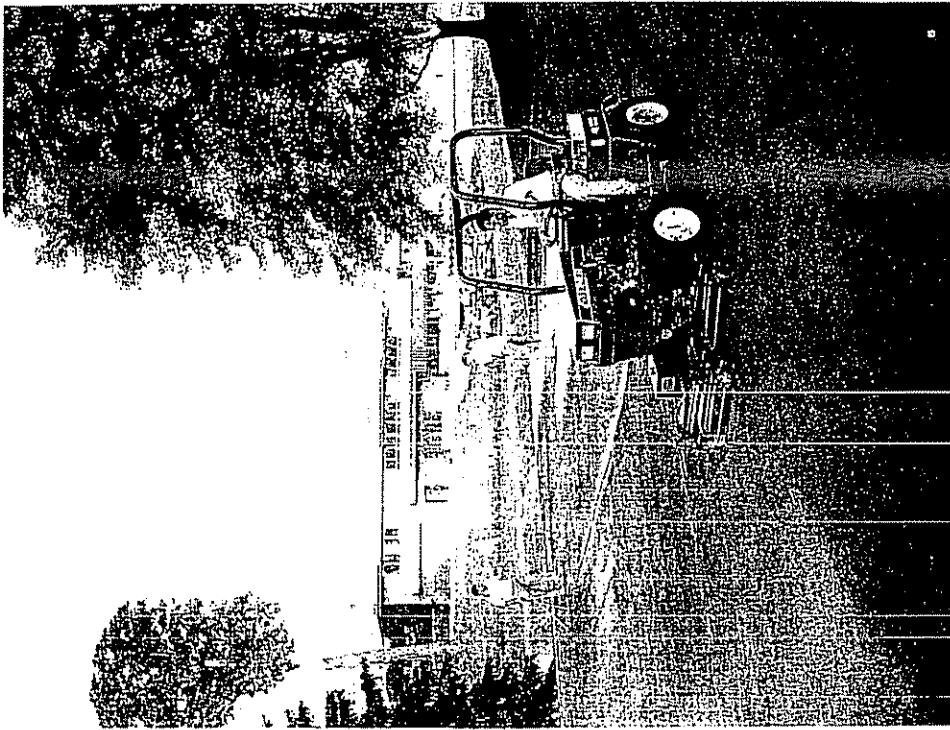
And Steiners traditionally hold their value extremely well, which will benefit you at resale or trade. All Steiner attachments also carry a one-year warranty except the tractor and chipper/shredder which have a 90-day warranty.

Assembly line



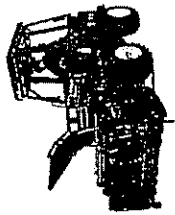
e r T u r f





is size and power, the ultimate Steiner tractor.

## model 525



Everything we've learned about building turf tractors has gone into the design and manufacture of our largest model, the Steiner 525. Its 23.5-hp Kubota water-cooled engine and smooth, footpedal operated 4-wheel drive give it the strength to power its way through the heaviest of heavy duty tasks. But this machine also offers high levels of handling and driver comfort, as its turning capabilities and softly cushioned ride allow the Steiner 525 to tread lightly on your grounds.

ACCESSORIES
ROPS APPROVED ROLL OVER
THREE POINT HITCH
WEIGHT D/A (FRONT OR REAR)
D/A (HEATED, ROPS APPROVED)
SUSPENSION SEAT

Steiner's Quick-Shift™ System allows you to easily switch to any attachment in one to five minutes.



Drive forward and the 3,500 lb. force engages the machine's air plate.



Press the spring-loaded lever with one hand.



Push the lever down and go to work.

